

Conservation Advisory Council | City of Newburgh, New York

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Phone: (845) 569-7366

Council Members:

Richard Harper, Chairman

Gail Fulton

Kippy Boyle

Mary McTamane

Phil Prinzivalli

Chuck Thomas

Karen McCarthy



Conservation Advisory Council Minutes of Meeting November 6, 2014

I. Roll Call

Present:

Richard Harper, Chair

Kippy Boyle

Karen McCarthy

Phil Prinzivalli

Chuck Thomas

Laurence Fleischer (Secretary)

A quorum is present.

Prior to the Roll Call of tonight's meeting, two presentations were made to the Conservation Advisory Council: The first presentation was made by Citizens Oppose Dirty Energy (CODE) regarding the proposed Pilgrim gas pipeline in the Hudson Valley. The second presentation was made by C.T. Male Consulting regarding the plans for the Hudson Valley Lighting Construction project on Scobie Drive in the City of Newburgh.

II. Approval of September minutes

Kippy Boyle- Motioned to approve October Minutes, seconded by Karen McCarthy.
The motion passed 5-0.

III. Budget Report:

Kippy Boyle stated the CAC turned in all invoices regarding tree maintenance.

Richard Harper asked if the tree maintenance people have yet been paid?

Kippy Boyle responded yes, they have.

Kippy Boyle reported that the CAC has so far spent \$5,646.29 in 2014.

Richard Harper noted that the CAC is ready to spend \$25,000 on Davey Tree at any time, and that a public hearing is going to be held next week on the City budget, and that he plans to attend.

Richard Harper reported that the IT Department produced a quote for a wireless router at a cost of \$600, to be installed at the Heritage Center.

Kippy Boyle stated that she has changed her mind regarding the purchase of this wireless router after having been previously morally opposed.

Chuck Thomas motioned to approve spending up to \$600 on a wireless router for the Heritage Center to provide wireless internet connectivity for the CAC meetings.

Karen McCarthy seconded.

The motion passed 5-0.

Richard Harper requested for the next City Council meeting agenda, that Mary McTamany and Gail Fulton are reappointed to another term on the Conservation Advisory Council.

Phil Prinzivalli stated that the CAC should have a computer with server access to store shared CAC data that can be accessed from home.

Richard Harper stated that he would like to have CAC meetings be more digitally based with internet and a projector.

Phil Prinzivalli asked if the CAC should purchase their own projector.

Chuck Thomas answered that upon discovering the CAC is presently using a projector borrowed from the IT department in City Hall, that no the CAC should NOT purchase their own projector.

Kippy Boyle asked Laurence Fleischer to please ask the IT department for recommendations on purchasing a lap top.

Chuck Thomas asked if the 2014 CAC budget rolls over to 2015.

Richard Harper answered no.

Richard Harper stated that the City Manager gave the CAC a generous budget.

Phil Prinzivalli stated if the money is there to spend on computer hardware, then the CAC should spend it.

Kippy Boyle asked what the timeline is on purchasing hardware.

Richard Harper responded, within 2 weeks.

Tree Inventory

Kippy Boyle stated that she emailed Deborah Gorka of the DEC, asking if there is any update on the signed contract from the DEC. Kippy Boyle noted that Ellen Filo was CC'd on this email.

Richard Harper stated that Andy Hillman told the CAC that an additional one or two attributes will not significantly increase the Davey Tree cost. Richard Harper suggested that one member of the CAC should go through each attribute.

Laurence Fleischer stated that he will review that attributes for the tree inventory as well, as the City's GIS Analyst.

IV. Old Business:

LWRP Update

Richard Harper said he is making recommendations to Deidre Glen on getting the rezoning finished. Richard Harper stated that the CAC should go through the LWRP draft one more time to make sure the CAC knows the scope to complete the new LWRP, and how much the State of New York will reimburse for completing it.

Kippy Boyle asked how long the LWRP is.

Richard Harper answered 300 plus pages.

Kippy Boyle asked for a timeline for going through the LWRP draft.

Chuck Thomas said he would like to go through it before giving an estimated timeline, perhaps several weeks.

Richard Harper said Deidre Glen and the City Manager and other contacts will finish the LWRP.

Kippy Boyle stated that someone has to ask the Department of State what the next step is. How long has it been since someone contacted Bonnie Divine at the Department of State regarding progress review? What happens if Bonnie Divine sends a check tomorrow? Can we then call BFJ and ask how much money it would cost to complete the project?

Richard Harper stated that this is reimbursement money that is already allocated for something.

Jeffrey Lejava suggested that the CAC contact Deidre Glen about this.

Richard Harper stated that Deidre did not know that the draft was not sent to the Department of State for approval. Ian MacDougal kept saying it's done, but only done according to Bonnie Divine's specifications.

Kippy Boyle asked what the next step is.

Richard Harper answered, to ask the City Manager and Deidre Glen to ask BFJ what it would take to complete the project.

Kippy Boyle and Richard Harper stated that rezoning has to be approved before the LWRP.

Jeffrey Lejava stated that the most prudent thing to do is have the rezoning and the LWRP go hand in hand.

Karen McCarthy stated that she unfortunately had to leave, at which point she left the meeting and exited the building.

Richard Harper stated that the same firm should be doing both the LWRP and the rezoning.

Fishing Pier

Chuck Thomas discussed his notes on the Fishing Pier, stating that he has been looking at the printed proposed plans. He requested a change in the location of handicapped parking spaces, and brought up the issue of access to Billy Joe's parking lot which runs through the fishing pier access.

Jeffrey Lejava asked if gravel is ADA compliant.

Chuck Thomas said that permeable pavement is being requested.

Kippy Boyle and Chuck Thomas noted that Billy Joe's building is actually located on City of Newburgh property.

Richard Harper stated that Chuck Thomas' comments regarding the fishing pier are sufficient.

V. New Business

Arbor Day

Kippy Boyle stated that TD Bank has a grant that goes out every year, but that the CAC cannot apply at this time.

Form Based Codes – Tree Pits

Kippy Boyle stated that specs from New York City, Mamaroneck, and Ithaca are being reviewed. She asked what the process is to get an opinion from the Engineering Department. Apparently Chad Wade is trying to figure that out now.

Kippy Boyle asked if the CAC shows the Engineering Department specs from New York City for example as a template for tree pits, can the Engineering Department review that?

Jeffrey Lejava stated that the CAC can make recommendations to the Engineering Department based on other cities' specifications for sidewalk permits. The CAC must review these templates. It should be requested that George Garrison and Chad Wade be present to review these templates.

Richard Harper suggested that Guidance for Green Infrastructure be a web based document.

Kippy Boyle discussed the existence of storm runoff calculators.

Tyrone Crabb Park

All CAC Members: The park is looking good as of recently.

Richard Harper stated on Grand Street, good-looking bluestone has been cracked and crushed from all the heavy truck traffic during park construction.

Urban Forestry

Kippy Boyle stated that
-1,2, Tree has been paid to prune 3 locations.

- The CAC has co-hosted the Tree Inventory Workshop at Kaplan Hall.
- The CAC has had five trees planted on Broadway.
- Fred Feder and Kippy Boyle did four site visits on a request by the DPW, most on sidewalk based conflicts.

Kippy Boyle stated that the City needs codes to determine what is allowed on sidewalk repair.

Phil Prinzivalli stated that we should not cut down healthy trees to satisfy codes. This is something that the DPW does.

Richard Harper stated that Central Hudson cut a number of very large roots of trees that had just been pruned in front of City Hall during scheduled underground utility repair work. It is believed these trees will probably not survive this intrusion.

Kippy Boyle stated that the Engineering Department should intervene.

Phil Prinzivalli stated the Codes department should intervene.

Chuck Thomas stated that he has started on RFP/RFQ templates.

Chuck Thomas motioned to adjourn the meeting.
Kippy Boyle seconded.

The motion passed 4.0.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:00pm.

Next meeting December 4, 2014.